

Michelle Bishop Disability Advocacy Specialist for Voting Rights

Michelle Bishop is the Disability Advocacy Specialist for Voting Rights at the National Disability Rights Network, where she is responsible for coordinating voting rights initiatives in every US state, district, and territory, as well as providing training and technical assistance to NDRN's nationwide network regarding voting rights and access for voters with disabilities under the Help America Vote Act. Michelle also works in coalition with the civil rights community in Washington, DC to ensure strong federal policy regarding voting rights and election administration. She is a member of the Election Verification Network, the National Council on Independent Living Board of Director's Voting Rights Subcommittee, the Circle of Advisors for Vote at Home, and the national steering committees for National Voter Registration Day, National Disability Voter Registration Week, and the REV Up campaign. She is on the board of NonProfit Vote and the District of Columbia Center for Independent Living, as well as a guest lecturer on disability rights and voting rights for Columbia University and Washington University in St. Louis. She has provided public testimony to the US Commission on Civil Rights and the US Election Assistance Commission (EAC). Michelle began working on disability-related voting issues in 2005 when states began to implement HAVA. Prior to joining NDRN, Michelle worked at Paraquad Center for Independent Living for eight years, where she led voting rights and get out the vote initiatives for up to 40 disability organizations, and most recently served as the Assistant Director of Public Policy & Advocacy. She received a Master of Social Work in Social and Economic Development from The Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis and a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and English literature from the State University of New York at Geneseo.